# Purpose of trip

The farmer’s field day was conducted to provide opportunity to participants to learn and share experiences on educational events regarding sustainable vegetable production for increased production, nutrition, and income through vegetable validated technologies, The event was organized by World Vegetable Center- ESA in collaboration with Kilimo Endelevu under IDP project in Karatu District. The team from the WorldVeg in collaboration with , Kilimo Endelevu field technical staff, District Government representatives, Extension Agents, farmers and local leaders managed to accomplished the farmer’s day objectives in selected 8 1st generation villages in Karatu District.

## Country/countries visited

Tanzania

## Dates of trip

16-18 December 2020

## Budget source

Africa RISING ESA project, 10000175-13

# Important results/information gathered during the trip

The two days on-farm farmer field days was conducted at Slahhamo and ----villages in Karatu of which about 127 people participated in the event, out of which 49% were women. Technologies/innovations demonstrated/showcased included healthy seedlings raised from good quality seeds, grafting of fruits, preparation, use of natural pesticides drip irrigation, and different types of home vegetable gardens such as the keyhole gardens.

The activities implemented during the events were;

* Visit to the demonstration plot/garden and farmer fields to see the adoption progress led by Worldveg in collaboration with IDP/KE and government representatives to increase the adoption of improved vegetable varieties and acceptable Agriculture practices (GAP) in project sites.
* Overall progress summary regarding the partnership with WorldVeg/KE regarding Vegetable production best Scaling activities in Karatu (achievements vs. targets in the respective district) by WorldVeg representative in collaboration with the Government liaison person and IDP/KE field technical staff
* Briefing about the symptoms, the effects of malnutrition, and the importance of vegetables as part of a balanced diet, also how the vegetables could be used as one of the affordable correct measures to address malnutrition, food safety, hygiene. The relationship between plant health and human health was given by farmer trainers and extension agents with support from the Worldveg participating team.
* Cook shows and tasting the prepared vegetables, including; the ‘mishikaki’ made from pumpkin leaves with peanut, vegetable stew, viazi lishe pancake, and pumpkin fruit stiff porridge mention a few.
* The recipes prepared were saved with fruits for lunch. The participants appreciated the test and promised to apply the knowledge and skills gained from the events back home and train others to increase consumption/nutrition, healthy, and wealth at the family level and neighborhood.
* Discuss and responding questions regarding vegetable production and preparations raised by participants, project stakeholders, and other experts.
* The journalists from DW Radio Swahili voice of German were invited to cover the field day events and interviews. The interviews focused on farmers ‘views regarding the situation before and after the project anteversion.
* During these field days, Extension personnel and farmer trainer representatives, with support from the Worldveg team, presented each practice/ technique and offered some written information to few people based on the request
* It is essential to develop training materials and forms (order forms, contact forms, etc.) early in the startup training process. Lacking these documents can cause inefficiency and take time to produce correctly

# Suggestions for follow-up

* Prepare and organize farmer field days in new villages.
* To liaise with village extension officers, IDP/KE field officers, and other local leaders to promote the production of the Traditional African Vegetables by farmers in the area and outside the established keyhole home gardens as part of scaling through sensitization and promotion to the community.
* Plan for an exchange visit to all.

# Lesson drawn

* It is essential to develop training materials and forms (farm records, contract forms, visitors’ forms/book, etc.) early in the startup farmer field events/training process. Lacking these documents can cause inefficiency and take time to produce
* Whether required by customers or not, vegetable producers should take a long-term view by maintaining awareness of the food safety and hygiene from production to the table and regulatory environment to be prepared for future demand.

# Photos or other supporting forms



**Figure 1**:From left: A Farmer (in Blue trouser) explaining how to use drip irrigation in his tomato in Karatu (Photo credit: Inviolate Dominick)

 

**Figure 2**: Left: Farmer demonstrate grafting in fruits; left discussions and reflection of farmer field events on going in Slahhamo village in Karatu (Photo credit: Inviolate Dominick)

 

**Figure 3:** Show case of recipe prepared and testing on going at Slahhamo Village

(Photo credit: Inviolate Dominick)